Attorney Docket:

October 23, 2000

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Roman SCHERTLER

Serial No.: 08/962,776 Group Art Unit:

Filed: November 3, 1997 Examiner: I. ROSENBAUM

A VACUUM PROCESS APPARATUS

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115

PADEBOX Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is responsive to the Office Action dated August 22, 2000.

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at column 5, line 45 in the manner shown on the attached sheet.

> The transport arm 5 carries at one end as conveyor portion a disk or plate 19 on which an article to be processed rests, in the illustrated example a CD or a magneto-optical storage disk 21, centered at the plate 19 by a central pin 17. As shown by broken lines the plate 19 at the supporting arm 5 can be moved back from its seat (illustrated) at the sealing frame 12 towards the rotation axis A and thus the lock may be opened at the side of the transport device. Because [3,5,19]the transport device comprised of the transport arm 5 and the conveyor plate 19 of the